

# WASTE REDUCTION TIPS

## SMART BUSINESS RECYCLING

Reducing the amount of trash your business creates is the best way to reduce monthly waste disposal costs and improve your company's bottom line. All waste reduction activities — be they waste prevention, reuse, or recycling practices — will help you achieve your goal of reducing the amount you pay for waste disposal and sending less trash to landfills.

Take advantage of the tips listed below to help you reduce your waste.

### REDUCE/REUSE

- Convert from disposable containers to reusable containers to ship goods to your customers. A specialty food manufacturer in Rancho Dominguez switched from cardboard boxes to reusable plastic boxes and significantly reduced its cost for delivery containers.
- Donate edible food from overruns to charity organizations that feed the hungry. For a list of organizations that accept food donations, see the attached **Food Bank** table.
- Encourage customers to return pallets and other shipping containers by charging a deposit.
  - Repair and reuse shipping pallets.
  - Reduce the use of packaging for products wherever possible. This will reduce costly disposal for retailers and others, while saving your company money in production costs. As examples, Sara Lee Co. eliminated paperboard layers in its frozen bagels. Kraft Foods eliminated lids and plastic overwrap on its microwave entrees.

### TIP SHEET

### RECYCLE

- If your business has large amounts of cardboard, obtain a baler. If your business does not generate enough cardboard to justify a baler, request a bin from your waste hauler or a local recycler.
- If you have recyclable materials in small quantities, consider paying for recycling collection services as long as the cost is less than what you pay for waste disposal. Your company will "make money" by reducing its waste disposal costs.
- If recycling collection services are not available from your waste hauler or recyclers, work with employees or local individuals to collect and transport recyclable materials from your business.
- Recycle food scraps with a food waste composter or animal feed manufacturer. For a list of companies that accept food waste, see the attached **Food Waste Recyclers** table.
- Recycle stretch wrap used to secure boxes on pallets. Contact the **SmartBusiness Recycling** Program at (800) 741-9236 for a list of plastic recyclers in Los Angeles County.

The following table provides a list of food bank organizations that operate in Los Angeles County. In addition to these listed, there are many small food donation programs run by neighborhood worship organizations and other civic organizations not listed in this table. Call first to discuss the particular food items from your business before starting a collection program.\*

FOOD BANKS		
Name	Type of Food Accepted	Notes
<b>Angel Harvest</b> 2040 Avenue of the Stars Century City, CA 90067 310/557-7074	Prepared and perishable foods Packaged and canned foods Fresh produce from growers and distributors	Serves all of Los Angeles County Catered events, advertising and entertainment industries, markets, restaurants Minimum 50 pounds per collection Collection only; no drop-off Service hours: 7 days/week 24 hours/day
<b>Food Bank of Southern California</b> 1444 San Francisco St. Long Beach, CA 90813 562/435-3577	Prepared and perishable foods Packaged and canned foods Fresh produce from growers and distributors	Serves all of Los Angeles County Catered events, manufacturers, processors, restaurants and supermarkets Accepts all quantities of food Drop-off or collection available Service hours: Mon-Fri 7 am–3:30 pm
<b>Los Angeles Regional Food Bank</b> 1734 E 41 <sup>st</sup> St. Los Angeles, CA 90058 323/234-3030 x130	Prepared and perishable foods Packaged and canned foods Fresh produce from growers and distributors	Serves all of Los Angeles County Catered events, manufacturers, processors, restaurants and supermarkets Accepts all quantities of food Drop-off or collection available Service hours: 7 days/week 24 hours/day

\* Inclusion in this list does not constitute an endorsement of any business entity, product, process, or service by the County of Los Angeles.

For additional information, contact the County of Los Angeles SmartBusiness Recycling Program at (800) 741-9236 [TDD (626) 282-7829] or visit our web site at [www.businessrecycling.com](http://www.businessrecycling.com)

The following table provides a list of companies that provide food waste recycling and collection throughout Los Angeles County. In addition to the list of “materials accepted” there may be other types of food waste that these businesses also collect. Call first to discuss the particular waste materials from your business before starting a collection program.\*

FOOD WASTE RECYCLERS	
Name	Materials Accepted
<b>Community Recycling &amp; Resource Recovery</b> 9147 DeGarmo Ave. Sun Valley, CA 91352 818/767-6000	Grocery store waste including produce trim and cull, meats, waxed cardboard boxes, spoiled foods.  Operates a transfer station and can provide collection for large quantity generators throughout Los Angeles County. Company charges for collection and drop-off.
<b>Dext Co.</b> 9112 Graham Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90002 323/564-5871	Provides collection of grain-based products, including bakery goods, pasta, noodles, etc. throughout Los Angeles County.  Call for current charges or prices paid.
<b>Feed Commodities</b> 1163 Belmont St. Ontario, CA 91761 909/923-3314	Provides collection of grain-based products, including bakery goods, pasta, noodles, etc. throughout Los Angeles County.  Call for current charges or prices paid.
<b>Hogg Brothers</b> 13377 Grove St. Ontario, CA 91761 909/947-2821	Provides collection of grain-based products, including bread, tortillas, pasta, noodles, and other foods such as potatoes, onions etc.  Also has drop-off location; call for current charges.
<b>Martin Feed &amp; Cattle</b> 7080 Summer Ave. Corona, CA 91761 909/737-6017	Provides collection services of grain-based products, including bread, tortillas, pasta, noodles, and other foods such as potatoes, onions etc.  Call for current charges or prices paid.
<b>Standard Feed</b> 13751 South Haven Ave. Ontario, CA 91761 909/947-3738	Provides collection services of grain-based products, including bread, tortillas, pasta, noodles, and other foods such as potatoes, onions etc.  Also has drop-off location; call for current charges.
<b>West Coast Recycling</b> 4105 Bandini Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90023 323/261-4176	Drop-off location for animal by-products, grease, fat, and bones.  Company also can provide collection of food waste to hotels and large food waste generators. Call for current charges.

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